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winners

pg 5

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Garrett named coach of
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Friday, January 7, 2011

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Aruba's Special Olympics get a great start to 2011 with a generous donation by Sam's



A check for the Special Olympics committee

Manoj Sabnani and Mohan Lalwani, partners in the popular Sam's electronics store, were pleased to end their holiday campaign with a drawing awarding a 32" LCD television and several digital picture frames to a number of lucky winners.

"The best part of this year's Christmas campaign was getting to know Aruba's special athletes," report

Manoj and Mohan. The shop has sponsored the kick-off of a fundraising campaign dedicated to sending Aruba's delegation of 15 athletes to the International Special Olympics, which are scheduled for the end of June in Athens, Greece.

This will be the fourth time Aruba will participate in the International Special Olympics, usually in 4-to 5

sports disciplines, and each time they have returned to their home island with gold, silver and bronze medals. "We are very proud to be backing what we know will be winners again this year," acknowledged Mohan. "We know they will bring honor to Aruba and their fellow islanders in this international arena."

Continued on page 2

SETAR Teleshop Sta. Cruz open today until 7:30 p.m.

For all those clients who are too busy during the day SETAR would like to inform them that their Teleshop at Sta. Cruz will remain open today until 7:30 p.m.

SETAR would also like to remind everyone of their e-Cuenta service, which facilitates the client to view and print their bills and to pay their bills online.

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To register for e-Cuenta the client needs a bill (not older than 6 months), and an e-mail address. To register visit www.e-cuenta.aw. For more information please call 114.



Russian President Dmitry Medvedev (C) and his wife Svetlana (2R) attend the Orthodox Christmas service in Moscow's Christ The Savior Cathedral, late on January 6, 2011. Christmas falls on January 7 for Orthodox Christians in the Middle East, Russia and other Orthodox churches that use the old Julian calendar instead of the 16th-century Gregorian calendar adopted by Catholics, Protestants, Greek Orthodox and commonly used in secular life around the world. AFP PHOTO



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Suspected parcel bombs wound 1 at US state office



The Dept. of Transportation Building in Hanover, Maryland

WASHINGTON (AFP) —

At least one person was injured yesterday when packages delivered to US state government buildings detonated, with one of them flaring and another giving off smoke, officials and local media said.

Maryland's WTOP radio initially reported explosions at

a government building at the state capital Annapolis and at a Department of Transportation building in the eastern part of the state.

But a local official declined to confirm that the packages had exploded and the radio station later said that they appeared to have fizzled.

"I cannot confirm an explosion," Phil McGowan, spokesman for the Annapolis mayor, told AFP.

"Our mayor received notice at about 1250 (1750 GMT) that city fire crews responded to the Jeffrey Building (next to the state capitol) for a package device that injured a mail room employee."

He said a bomb squad was examining the device and that no other packages would be opened until they had been inspected by bomb-sniffing dogs.

McGowan confirmed there was another "device situation" in Hanover, Maryland, but said he had no further details.

The Washington Post quoted a police spokesman as saying that employees at both offices had fingers singed in the incident and that one person from the Hanover building was taken to a hospital as a precaution.

WTOP said one of the packages flared when it was opened while the other gave off smoke and strong odors.

State agencies have stopped all mail delivery until an investigation is complete.

The Annapolis building that was attacked housed the local office of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State and the office of Veterans Affairs.

Aruba's Special Olympics get a great start to 2011... Continued from page 1



The lucky winners

Mohan handed a generous check to Netty Williams, Head of Volunteers for the Foundation for the Mentally Challenged and President of the Special Olympics Committee, Arturo Werleman, along with a delegation of

gold medal winning athletes, at their shop in Oranjestad at the close of business on Tuesday, January 4.

Every year, Sam's by Manolo ends the year with a donation to an island foundation; this year, they hope to galvanize other island concerns to also support Aruba's special athletes in their drive to raise the necessary funds to travel to Athens.

"We look forward to seeing our athletes on the podium receiving their medals," commented Sam's staff, "we are behind them all the way and are proud to sponsor their efforts to "Go! Go! for the Gold in Greece" in 2011!"

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Three Wins for Government in Fresnos Case Finally an open door for Aruba's next 5-star Hotel

The third court case of the Fresnos group against the island of Aruba was convened in yesterday's court, and for the third time the Judge discarded the plaintiffs demand. This means that the Spanish group again lost their case.

The court cases began when the minister of Tourism informed the Fresnos group that they had failed to comply with the stipulated legal conditions in the proposition from the previous government.

In this court hearing, the group's contention consisted of two parts: 1. to prohibit the government from negotiating with any other group for the acquisition of the defunct Bushiri Hotel property, which demand was rejected by the court. And, secondly, to compel the government to conjure up an agreement with them within 90 days based on the supposed agreement they had from the previous Administration. This demand, according to the Judge, was already duly attended to by the current government and that it was not prudent to require the government to reach any agreement with them in 90 days.

According to the minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber,

the triple court verdicts are a clear message to the Spanish group; and at the same time, raises questions as to the negotiation procedure followed by his predecessors concerning the Bushiri Hotel and the APA grounds.

Oduber intimated to the courts that every court case seriously hindered the ongoing negotiations with a group who have demonstrated their serious intent with deposited guarantees. The Tourism dignitary observed..."I hope that after this court sentence we can reach a definite agreement with respect to the future of the Bushiri Hotel property within the next 30 days." We will endeavor to reach an agreement with the Baron Investment group, or begin a new round of open bidding to commence a new process."

Oduber concluded by saying that this third court verdict, should afford the government the necessary freedom to conclude their conversations and negotiation with the Baron Investment group and that very soon Minister Benny Sevinger, minister of Infrastructure, can solidify an agreement with the group so as to pave the way for another 5-star hotel for Aruba.

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Pointers to Ponder

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A new year is the ideal time to set goals!

Many of us do not set goals, simply because we don't know the simple basics of goal setting.

The basics of setting a goal is an open secret known by top-caliber athletes, successful businessmen and businesswomen and all types of achievers in all the different fields. These great achievers could have never achieved anything without goals. The basics of setting goals give you short-term and long-term motivation and focus. They help you set focus on the acquisition of required knowledge and help you to plan and organize your resources and your time so that you can get the best out of your life.

Setting clearly defined short term and long term goals will enable you to measure your progress and achieve personal satisfaction once you have successfully met your goals. Then you need a method to chart your progress, this will also enable you to actually see the stages of completion leading to the actual realization of your goals. This eliminates the feeling of a long and pointless grind towards achieving your goal. Your self-confidence and level of competence will also improve as you will be more aware of your capabilities as you complete or achieve your goals.

The basics of goal setting will involve deciding what you really want to do with your personal life and what short term and long term goals you need to set to achieve it. So, for some people, now may be the time to sit down and really decide what it is you really want to do with your life. Then you have to break down goals into small and manageable targets that you must complete on your way to achieving your lifetime goals. Once you have your list waste no time in tackling your goals. Remember, now is the time to begin the process...not tomorrow or next week or next month...do it now!

A good way to have a manageable list is to have a daily and weekly set of goals. By doing this you will be always in the position of going towards your life plan goals.

Everyday will give you the opportunity to fulfill a certain goal giving you the feeling of accomplishment.

Here are some pointers that should be taken into consideration in setting goals and achieving them.

Attitude plays a very big role in setting and achieving your goals. You must ask yourself if any part of you or your mind is holding you back towards completing your simplest goals. Is there any part of your behavior hindering or putting your plans into disarray? If you do have problems in these areas then the immediate thing to do is to address this problem. Solutions may include a visit to a doctor or psychologist to control your emotions.

Careers are made by good time management practice. Failing in a career is often attributed to bad time management. Careers require a lot from an individual which often makes the career the life of the individual. Plan how far you want to go into your career.

Education is paramount in achieving your goals. If your goals require you to have a certain kind of degree or require a certain specialization or demand a certain skill to be developed, make plans in getting the appropriate education.

Your family should never be left out of your plans. If you are just starting out then you have to decide if you want to be a parent or when you want to be a parent. You also have to know if you really would be a good parent and how well would you relate to extended family members. Extended family is very important in your new relationship; they contribute to your happiness or lack of happiness. Therefore, you must include them in your planning.

Personal financial situations also play a major role in achieving your goals. Have a realistic goal on how much you really want to earn. You also must be able to create plans or stages by which you will be able to reach your earning potential.

Physically gifted individuals may be able to achieve sports related goals like being

in the Aruba Dolphins swimming team or the Football Team. Determining your physical capabilities should be one of your priorities. Physical limitations could however be conquered with proper planning.

As the saying goes -'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy', or something to that effect, is by all means true down to the last letter. Giving yourself a little pleasure should be included into your plans. Plan for time to relax and to do some fun things.

To start achieving your lifetime goals, set a five-year plan, then break it down to 1 year plans then break it down again to 6 months plans, then 1 month plans then weekly plans, then daily.

Then, create a things-to-do today list for each day. I still do this myself every day.

Always review your plans and prepare for contingencies. The basics of goal settings should not be so difficult once you get to be familiar with them. And, the secret to successfully achieving your goals is to begin now, at the start of a new year, to formulate those goals. Refuse to procrastinate and get to work right away. If you have to, consult some knowledgeable person(s) to assist you with your goal setting. Finally, don't ever exclude God from your plans, He is the source of our strength and will provide the wisdom needed to plan right. Tell me how you're doing!



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Getting in shape for a good cause

Annual Donkey Walk-a-Thon is held on Saturday, January 15



The Annual Donkey Walk-a-Thon will be held for the sixth consecutive time this year; it will take place on Saturday, January 15, a week later than usual. The 6-kilometer popular walk is held for runners as well as for people who like to take a leisurely stroll through the Aruban countryside in the company of a few donkeys and lots of enthusiastic inhabitants, visitors, tourists and friends of all ages.

The Walk-a-Thon tradi-

tionally starts at five o'clock in the afternoon at the Ayo Rock formation. Participants can register starting at 4 pm; the fee is AWG. 10,- per person, including a small gift from the Donkey Sanctuary. The entire proceeds of the walk go towards the donkeys, so this is a superb way to support the upkeep of the Aruban donkeys.

Photos shows the 2010 Annual Donkey Walk-a-Thon and a group of donkeys at the Donkey Sanctuary .

Milano's unveils a new menu



Black Angus Filet Mignon



Rack of Lamb with Tomato almond salsa



Proscuitto with Mango Relish



Shrimp Cognac



Passion Cheesecake

Milano's, which opened in the South Beach Center in Palm Beach last spring, recently unveiled a new menu and look. The revamped Milano's Italian Bistro & Lounge offers chic décor and an equally chic menu featuring specialties of the chef based on gourmet Italian dishes but fused with the flavors of the Caribbean.

An attractive array of appetizers and entrees presented included Prosciutto with Mango Relish, Shrimp Cognac, Black Angus Filet Mignon and a Rack of Lamb encrusted with Tomato and Almond Salsa. This appealing display was accompanied by a sampling of their special events menu which includes gourmet snacks to tempt the most discerning.

The holiday season is fast approaching, and the cozy surroundings of Milano's offers a very interesting alternative for small groups looking for a venue suited to their size. The bistro has also reworked their menu pricing to present a tab at the end of the evening that affirms patrons' satisfaction.

Gilbert, an award-winning chef, is in charge of the kitchen. His team just claimed the silver award at the October Chef/Student Culinary Competition conducted by Aruba's EPI School. This was judged by celebrity chef Michael Deihl of the East Lake Country Club and President of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Culinary Federation. Gilbert brings his expert touch and passion to Milano's new menu, and the management is very enthusiastic about the change.

The restaurant is open for dinner from 5:30 to 11:00 p.m. nightly; the lounge stays open for late night socializing until 1:00 a.m. on weekdays and 3:00 a.m. on the weekends. It provides an ideal environment for those who enjoy good conversation without having to shout over loud music.

For more information and reservations call 568-7070.

by Rosalie Klein

US judge frees Anna Nicole Smith's boyfriend

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A US judge Thursday quashed drugs-related charges against the boyfriend of late model Anna Nicole Smith, who died of an overdose four years ago.

The Los Angeles judge said there was insufficient evidence to justify the convictions of Howard K. Stern, and all but one conviction against psychiatrist Khristine Eroshevich.

But prosecutors immediately vowed to do everything they could to overturn the ruling, while the judge left open the possibility of a new trial.

Forty-one year-old Stern, Smith's longtime lawyer and boyfriend, was found guilty in October on two conspiracy counts relating to using a false name to secure prescription drugs for the late Playboy model.

Eroshevich, 62, was convicted of four counts of fraudulently obtaining medication when prescribing drugs under false names to the starlet, who died in a Florida hotel room in February 2007 at the age of 39.

But judge Robert J. Perry of the LA Superior Court on Thursday dropped all charges against Stern, and all but one against Eroshevich, who was sentenced to a year probation and a 100-dollar fine for a misdemeanor.

The judge had been expected to announce sentences for Stern and Eroshevich, but

said there was "insufficient evidence" for the conspiracy convictions -- although he did leave open the option of a new trial on two felony charges.

Steve Cooley, the LA district attorney who brought the case, said: "We strongly disagree with Judge Robert Perry's ruling today.

"His decision denigrates the substantial investigative efforts... it diminishes the huge social problem of prescription drug abuse facilitated by irresponsible caretakers and unscrupulous medical professionals," he said.

"We will immediately pursue all appellate remedies to overturn Judge Perry's decision," he added.

October's verdicts came after a months-long trial. Another physician in the case, 42-year-old Sandeep Kapoor, was cleared of all charges. None of the defendants were charged with causing the ex-model's death.

During the trial, prosecutors said the trio gave the immensely famous Smith the powerful opiates and sedatives she craved despite the lack of a legitimate medical need.

A 2007 autopsy found that Smith's death -- a worldwide media sensation at the time -- was due to a lethal cocktail of anti-anxiety medication, methadone, antibiotics and other prescription drugs.

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Boolchand's Campaign Winners!



On behalf of all at Boolchand's we would like to thank everyone for their support and patronage throughout 2010. We had a very successful campaign with many participants throughout December!

For every Afsl. 25 of purchase we offered one raffle ticket, so almost all clients participated with many, many raffle tickets!

Today we would like to announce the lucky winner of

the first prize, Sony 40" LED TV is Mr. Rudberth Wolff.

Many Congratulations!!!

The second prize winner of the Afsl. 500 gift certificate is Edwin Geerman, the third prize winner of Nintendo Wii Console is Roslaine Silva, the fourth prize winner of Sony 8GB MP3 Player is Quianna Paulin!

The winners of Nike Watches are; Gina Jansen, L. H. Shapiro, Lily Beke-Martinez, Kendrick Chirino,



Ruben Wever and Ximena M. Congratulations to all the Winners!! Please pass by

Boolchand's with a valid ID to claim your winning prize! Allow us to take this oppor-

tunity to wish one and all a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2011! Tur Kos Bon!

Sci-Tech

Motorola unveils tablet computer, the Xoom



The Motorola Xoom Android Honeycomb tablet,

LAS VEGAS (AFP) – US telecom maker Motorola Mobility has jumped into the bustling tablet computer market with a touchscreen device powered by "Honeycomb," the latest version of Google's Android software.

Sanjay Jha, the chief executive of Motorola Mobility, also presented three new Android-powered touchscreen smartphones to reporters on the eve of the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES).

Motorola Mobility's hotly awaited tablet computer, the "Xoom," will be available in the first quarter of the year, Jha said.

With a 10.1-inch (25.6-centimeter) screen, the Xoom is about the same size as Apple's iPad, which hit stores in April and has other leading technology companies around the world scrambling to catch up.

More than 100 firms are expected to unveil tablet computers at CES, which officially opens on Thursday and features more than 2,600 exhibitors of the latest gadgets.

Jha said the Xoom will be the first tablet computer to hit stores featuring Android 3.0, or Honeycomb, an operating system developed with tablets in mind instead of smartphones.

"It's been designed ground up for the tablet, the user interface, the whole interaction," Jha said. "It has

multi-tasking capability."

"All of these things, I think, deliver an experience which make Android 3.0 on our tablet probably in my opinion the most competitive product in the marketplace," he said.

Jha pointed out several features on the Xoom that the iPad does not have including front- and rear-facing cameras and the ability to play Adobe Flash video software, which is banned from the Apple device.

He said the first Xooms to hit the market will feature 3G connectivity to the Internet through US carrier Verizon Wireless. A 4G Xoom will come out later in the year and 3G versions can be upgraded to 4G.

Jha also unveiled three new smartphones, the Atrix 4G, available through US telecom giant AT&T in the first quarter of the year, the Cliq 2 and the Droid Bionic.

A laptop dock for the Atrix 4G allows a user to connect the phone to a computer monitor and surf the Web using a full Firefox desktop browser.

The Cliq 2, available through Deutsche Telekom's T-Mobile in the United States from January 19, features a slide-out keyboard and was described as a device offering "business-ready features and robust entertainment options."

The Bionic Droid, which will be available in the second quarter of the year, is de-

signed specifically for Verizon's 4G network, which was launched in December and currently covers about one-third of the US population.

It offers mobile Internet speeds up to 10 times faster than 3G and will, for example, allow high-quality streaming of television shows.

Chief executive Jha rolled out the new products here a day after the Illinois-based Motorola split into two companies, Motorola Mobility and Motorola Solutions.

Motorola Mobility will focus on mobility, the Internet and computing markets while Motorola Solutions will target next-generation communications solutions to government, public safety and enterprise customers.



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Babies born slightly early often don't get proper care



Babies born just a few weeks early are often cared for as if they were full-term babies – for instance, they are sometimes allowed to leave the hospital shortly after birth. But such practices may harm the infants' health and put them at risk for visits to the emergency room, according to a new study.

The study adds to the growing body of evidence showing that hospitals need to change the way they treat late-preterm infants, said study researcher Dr. Ramzan Shahid, medical director of the newborn nursery at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, Ill.

Babies born between 34 weeks and 36 weeks of pregnancy are considered late-preterm; full-term pregnancies last at least 37 weeks.

The new study showed babies born at 36 weeks were almost twice as likely to require a visit to the emergency room within the first month of their lives as infants born even earlier, at 34 or 35 weeks. "The ones that are born earlier, those babies are monitored more closely," Shahid said.

"I think pediatricians feel that [the 36-week-old infants] are almost full term, and they feel that they will probably do fine," Shahid said. "I think there's a false sense of security that they have with the 36-week infants."

Late-preterm babies are not fully mature and are at risk for breathing problems and jaundice, Shahid said. They can have trouble feeding, maintaining a proper body temperature and keeping normal blood sugar levels.

Japan backs firms' green city projects abroad



TOKYO (AFP) – Japan is financially backing its companies that are seeking to build "green cities" -- communities with low pollution and renewable energies -- in India and elsewhere, a report said Thursday.

The public-private Innovation Network Corp. of Japan plans to invest up to 130 billion yen (\$1.5 billion) in such eco-community projects, more of which are planned for China and Southeast Asia, the Nikkei daily said.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has set aside 40 billion yen in funds within its investment and loan programme for fiscal 2011 to cover the fund supply for smart-community development abroad, the daily said.

In so-called green or smart city projects, high-tech companies map out and build entire communities with efficient and clean power supplies, housing, public transport and water and sewerage systems.



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Health & Living

Hundreds pregnant in UK despite contraceptive implant



LONDON, England (AFP) — More than 1000 women in Britain have become pregnant despite using a contraceptive implant fitted in their arms. Thousands of women used the Implanon implant, which was designed to stop them getting pregnant for three years by releasing hormones into their blood from a tiny tube in their arm.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) also confirmed it had received a total of 1,607 adverse drug reaction reports linked to Implanon, relating to 2,888 incidents of suspect reactions in users.

The National Health Service has paid out more than 200,000 pounds (310,000 dollars, 235,000 euros) in compensation to women who fell pregnant or were injured by the implant, according to media reports.

Manufacturers MSD have since replaced Implanon with Nexplanon, which has a different applicator and can be de-

tected by X-ray or CT scan. June Raine, a director at the MHRA, told Channel 4 television: "We worked closely with the company to enable the new version to be developed. They are fully aware of all the concerns that we have."

A lawyer for some of the women claiming for personal loss and damage said many had not realised the pre-loaded applicator had failed to release the implant into their bloodstream.

Stephanie Prior said: "Nexplanon has a new preloaded applicator which is designed to reduce the risk of insertion difficulties and it is radio-opaque so that it can be identified on an X-ray or CT scan if necessary."

"I have clients who fell pregnant as they were unaware that the Implanon device had not been inserted into their arm and they suffered psychological difficulties as a consequence of falling pregnant and later miscarrying or having to make the difficult decision to terminate the pregnancy."

In a statement, MSD said it was "confident in the efficacy and safety of Implanon" but suggested that many of the women who became pregnant had had the device badly fitted by a medical practitioner.



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Antibiotic treatment eases irritable bowel syndrome

WASHINGTON (AFP) — An antibiotic can help some sufferers of irritable bowel syndrome, marking the first potential drug treatment for the disease which affects more than 30 million people said a study.

The ailment causes bloating, abdominal pain, watery stool or constipation, and the findings in the New England Journal of Medicine appear to confirm studies in the past decade that suggest it is caused by bacteria in the gut.

"These results support the idea that intestinal microbiota or gut bacteria may be an underlying cause of IBS, and altering gut bacteria by treatment with rifaximin appears to be an effective way of providing relief to those who suffer from IBS symptoms," said co-author Yehuda Ringel.

The US Food and Drug Ad-

ministration has already approved rifaximin, marketed as Xifaxan by Salix Pharmaceuticals, for treatment of travelers' diarrhea.

According to Mark Pimentel, who headed clinical trials at Cedars-Sinai, some subjects in the study experienced pain relief for weeks after they stopped taking the antibiotic.

"For years, the treatment options for IBS patients have been extremely limited," he added. "IBS often does not respond well to treatments currently available, such as dietary changes and fiber supplements alone."

The journal noted that Pimentel "discovered the use of rifaximin for IBS," and he is "a consultant to Salix, Inc, and serves on its scientific advisory board."

The drug maker provided

funding for the study, hosted at five US medical facilities, which involved more than 600 IBS sufferers with mild to moderate diarrhea and bloating.

The subjects were "randomly assigned to take a 550 milligram dose of rifaximin or placebo three times daily for two weeks. Study participants were then followed for 10 weeks more," it said.

Forty percent of patients felt relief from symptoms after taking the antibiotic for two weeks.

In comparison, about 30 percent of those taking a placebo reported similar results.

"Patients reported relief from bloating, less abdominal pain and improved stool consistency for up to 10 weeks," the study said.

28 kids in China hospital for lead poisoning



BEIJING, China (AFP) — Twenty-eight children, some as young as nine months old, have been hospitalised in eastern China for lead poisoning blamed on an unlicensed battery factory, state media said.

Doctors first detected abnormally high lead levels in

the blood of three children in the town of Gaohe in Anhui province last month, prompting authorities to carry out tests on 280 children, Xinhua news agency said.

More than 200 were found to have excessive lead in their blood, and those hospitalised -- aged nine months to 16 years -- were suffering from "moderate to severe" lead poisoning, the report said, citing a hospital official.

Inspectors from the local environmental protection bureau found that Borui Battery Co. Ltd., which had been operating illegally, was the cause of the problem. They closed down the plant as well as another factory in the area.

Excessive levels of lead in the blood are considered hazardous, particularly to children, who can experience stunted growth and even mental retardation.

In October 2009, nearly 1,000 children tested positive for lead poisoning in the central province of Henan. Smelting plants in the area were found to be responsible.

Such incidents have exposed the dark side of the country's economic boom.

Rapid industrialisation over the last 30 years has left China, the world's second-largest economy, with some of the world's worst water and air pollution and has left widespread environmental damage.

US scientists sound alarm over animal research

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Scientists who use monkeys, mice and dogs for research on human diseases fear that the US government is restructuring the massive National Institutes of Health in a way that could slash their funding.

As the NIH forges ahead with a plan to speed up the way scientific discoveries are transformed into treatments and cures, animal researchers say they are being overlooked in the rush to create a new institute devoted to something they already do and some are concerned that the changes could

incur large startup costs at a time when Congress is aiming to pare back science budgets.

The NIH, which funnels \$31 billion per year into medical research, is considering an advisory panel recommendation to create a new center for turning lab advances into practical health solutions for the public, also known as translational medicine.

The proposed National Center for Advancing Translational Research (NCATS) would include a new initiative from President Obama's health care reform plan, the Cures

Acceleration Network.

But it leaves out about half of a \$1.3-billion program that funds the nation's eight primate centers and a series of other research programs, known as the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR).

According to NIH guidelines, the creation of a new center means an existing one will have to be cut.

Mark Lively, a scientist at Wake Forest University in North Carolina who is a member of the NCRR advisory board, said most people agree with the NIH's goal of speeding discoveries to patients.

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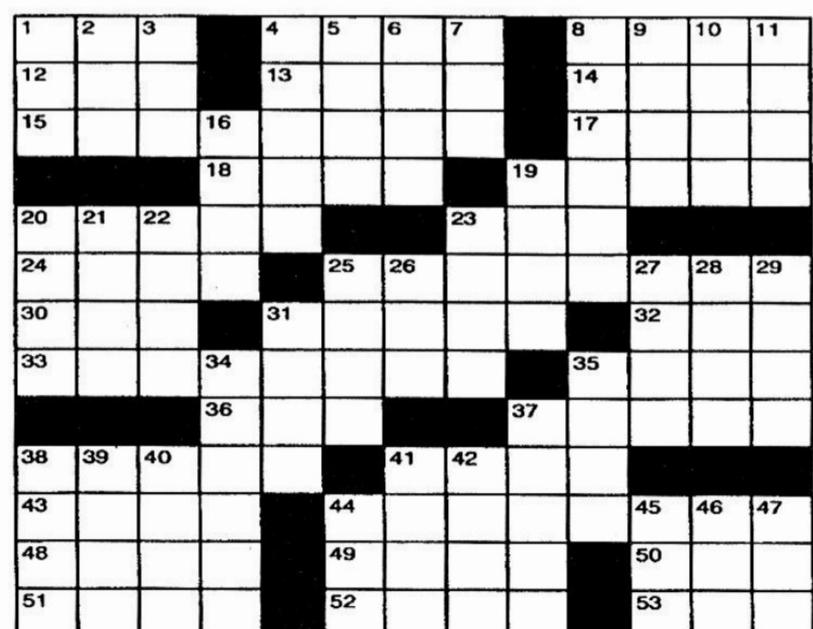


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- 1. Rainy mo.
- 4. Ground
- 8. Close
- 12. Red, White, or Black
- 13. ___ we go!
- 14. Deli sandwich
- 15. Attractive
- 17. From ___ to riches
- 18. ___ of Man
- 19. Heals
- 20. "Saturday Night Fever" locale
- 23. City sight
- 24. Dormant
- 25. Coat material
- 30. Actor Marvin
- 31. Frighten
- 32. Wrath
- 33. Lyndon's wife
- 35. Tie the ___
- 36. Nightmare street
- 37. Omens
- 38. Rotation
- 41. Rosary part
- 43. Authentic



44. Math process

48. Too

49. Related

50. What it takes to

51. Puffed

52. Thaw

53. Group

DOWN

- 1. Cigar residue
- 2. Split ___ soup
- 3. Operated
- 4. Riata
- 5. MP's quarry
- 6. Entitle
- 7. Color, as hair

8. Bushes

9. Get word

10. Prod

11. Heave

16. Chop uniformly

19. Placid

20. Pickle herb

21. Notion

22. Snow toy

23. Baseball or playing

25. Thin

26. Van Gogh's loss

27. Sovereign

28. Press clothes

29. New Jersey team

31. Equal to the task

34. Sunny hue

35. Teases

37. Hallowed one

38. Crustacean

39. Holler

40. Unit for Sherlock

41. Motorcycle

42. Wicked

44. Paddock mom

45. ___ a girl!

46. Have debts

47. Forget-me-___

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4	6	8	7	5	9	1	2	3
7	1	3	8	2	6	9	4	5
2	7	4	1	4	3	5	9	6
5	9	1	4	3	7	6	8	2
2	7	4	9	2	4	1	7	5
6	3	8	5	9	6	7	4	1
1	8	9	3	6	5	2	7	4
3	4	6	9	7	4	8	3	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9

A number is Never repeated in a row or column.

In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Finance

Snow costs British Airways £50 mln in December 2010



A snow plough is driven past British Airways planes on the second runway at London's Heathrow Airport

LONDON, England (AFP) — British Airways announced Thursday that the snow chaos last month cost the airline about £50 million (?59 million euros, \$78 million).

"An initial assessment indicates that the weather disruption will have a financial impact ... of some £50 million, with some small additional impact in January from cancelled return journeys," BA said in a statement.

The carrier, which is merging with Spanish peer Iberia to cut costs, added that the total number of passengers had plunged by 10.8 percent last month to 2.142 million. That compared with 2.401 million in December 2009.

Traffic was affected by the weather conditions in the UK, Europe and North America, causing airport closures and reduced operating capacities, equivalent to a reduction in capacity versus December 2009 of around 12 percent," BA said.

Air travellers faced severe disruption last month as freezing weather across the northern hemisphere sparked travel chaos.

British Airways was forced to cancel more than 2,000 flights as a result of the cold snap.

The country's Met Office national weather service said on Wednesday that last month was the coldest December since records began.

China pledges to enhance yuan flexibility

BEIJING (AFP) — China's central bank pledged to increase the flexibility of its yuan exchange rate, ahead of President Hu Jintao's visit to the United States where the currency issue will be raised.

We will "enhance the flexibility of the exchange rate, and maintain the basic stability of the RMB (yuan) exchange rate at a reasonable and balanced level," the People's Bank of China said in a statement.

Hu is due in Washington on January 19. He will meet with US President Obama, who is expected to raise the sensitive issues of trade and currency reform with him during their talks.

Washington wants Beijing to allow the yuan to appreciate more quickly. Critics say China keeps it artificially undervalued to gain an unfair trade advantage that has cost thousands of US jobs.

China pledged in June to allow the yuan to trade more "flexibly" but it has appreciated about three percent since that time.

"China plays an enormously important role in our global economy, and China has to take steps to rebalance its currency," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters.

Ministry spokesman Hong Lei named the "international division of labour" and US export restrictions on high-tech products as contributing factors to China's trade surplus with the United States.

He added Beijing had taken measures to increase imports from the United States and promote balanced trade.

"That proves that the renminbi exchange rate is not the main cause of the China-US trade imbalance," he said.

Before Hu heads to Washington, US Defence Secretary Robert Gates will visit China from Sunday -- one year after Beijing cut military ties with Washington in protest against US arms sales to rival Taiwan.

US probe shares out 'systemic' blame for oil spill

WASHINGTON (AFP) — A US panel has spread blame for the deadly Gulf of Mexico oil spill beyond BP to Halliburton and Transocean, accusing all three of "systemic" management failures that could happen again.

The presidential commission's assessment was part of its final report on the deadly April blowout of BP's Macondo well, which killed 11 workers and spewed 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico over three months.

It said oil services giant Halliburton and offshore drilling group Transocean were also very much at fault in ignoring key warnings and failing to take the necessary precautions to avert the massive spill.

Transocean owned the BP-leased Deepwater Horizon platform that sank in the accident. In October, Halliburton admitted skipping a key cement test before the blowout, but blamed BP for not testing the integrity of the job.

The root causes of the blowout were "systemic and, absent significant reform in both industry practices and government policies, might well recur," the report said.

"Whether purposeful or not, many of the decisions that BP, Halliburton and Transocean made that increased the risk of the Macondo blowout clearly saved those companies significant time (and money)."

The beleaguered firm said it was working with regulators and the industry "to ensure that the lessons learned from Macondo lead to improvements in operations and contractor services in deepwater drilling."

It cited launching a new division devoted to safety and operational risk that reports directly to the firm's CEO Bob Dudley and will provide "independent oversight" of safety-related operational decisions.

The findings "only compound our sense of tragedy because we know now that the blowout of the Macondo well was avoidable," said former Florida senator Bob Graham, the commission's co-chair.



An oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico

"This disaster likely would not have happened had the companies involved been guided by an unrelenting commitment to safety first. And it likely would not have happened if the responsible governmental regulators had the capacity and will to demand world class safety standards."

According to the report, the Macondo well blew out when a series of "separate risk factors, oversights and outright mistakes combined to overwhelm the safeguards" designed to prevent such an event. "But most of the mistakes and oversights at Macondo can be traced back to a single overarching failure -- a failure of management," it added. "Better management by BP, Halliburton and Transocean would almost certainly have prevented the blowout by improving the ability of individuals involved to identify the risks they faced, and to properly evaluate, communicate and address them."

The seven-member panel was set up by US President Obama and tasked with finding out what caused the accident.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

OMEN	ARE	ASPS
DOVE	GEM	LEAP
ODES	EVIDENCE	
RENTS	IRE	TED
	SOIL	WOE
ANA	ACE	ANDA
REVERE	PARCEL	
MEEK	SAP	EEL
	NET	EDEN
SAG	EAR	SAGAS
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their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental

program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

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'Babe' creator Dick King-Smith dies at 88



Children's author Dick King-Smith

LONDON, England (AFP) — Dick King-Smith, the British author of the popular children's books which spawned the hit film "Babe", has died at the age of 88, his publishers said.

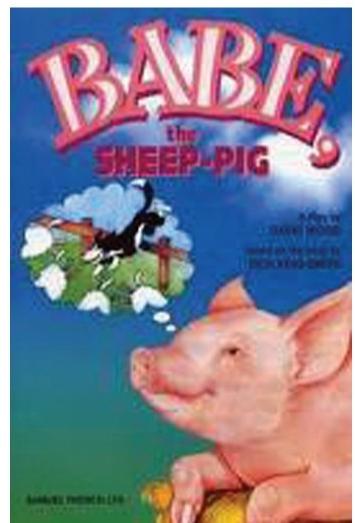
The prolific writer, whose 1983 book "The Sheep-Pig" was made into the 1995 film, died in his sleep at his home near Bath in southwest England, said a spokeswoman for Random House.

He is believed to have been in poor health in recent years.

King-Smith described his creations as "farmyard fantasies" for children and many of his more than 100 books featured animals, drawing on the two decades he spent as a farmer after fighting in World War II.

A late starter as a writer, his first book, "The Fox Busters", was published in

King-Smith is survived by his second wife Zona, three children, 14 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.



The 1983 book "The Sheep-Pig" was made into the 1995 film,

At 80, world's oldest clown has no plans to quit



Russian clown Oleg Popov (left) performs with his assistant Volodimir Fisenko

THE HAGUE, The Netherland (AFP) — At 80, the world's oldest clown has given up tightrope walking but Oleg Popov, the most famous Soviet-era jester, still tours half of the year and has no plans to hang up his trademark red nose.

"The Sun Clown", as he is also known, never fails to enthrall young and old with his oddball character based on a figure from Russian folklore -- one who appears stupid but really isn't.

"I love to make people laugh, also in private," the Russian told AFP on a recent tour in The Hague, laughter sparkling in his lively blue eyes. "I am very happy -- if I could live my life over I would become a clown all over again."

As the drums rolled under the travelling big top of the Great Russian State Circus, the ringmaster heralds "the one, the only, the unique Oleg Popov!"

To loud applause, a small man with a shock of straw-coloured hair under a black-and-white chequered cap shuffles into the ring -- just as he has done for six decades.

Alone in the spotlight, Popov -- who in 1981 won the Golden Clown award, the "Oscar" of the circus world -- chants softly in Russian, clutching an old umbrella handle sprouting a bunch of multi-coloured balloons.

His black jacket is too short, his red, blue and black-striped pants stop at his calves. His bow tie, like his nose, is red and his face lightly made up.

Between performances of hoop-jumping poodles, flying acrobats and a trained elephant, Popov entertains with a trick that sends soup ladles flying into ice buckets.

To the crowd's delight, he

farms or sports clubs.

At 19, the clown, whose clockmaker father disappeared under the Stalin regime, was given a full-time job at the government-run Russian State Circus. His big break came in 1954, when he stepped in for the head clown who had broken his arm.

Popov took over as head clown two years later, the same year he left Russian soil for the first time on a tour of western Europe. It was the first-ever foreign tour by a Soviet circus, arranged by the Kremlin to bolster its image abroad.

"I was not allowed to leave the circus, we were watched permanently by KGB agents" tasked with preventing defections, he recounts in a rare serious moment.

Popov has since performed all around the world, including France, Australia, the United States, Japan, Israel and Cuba.

His current employer, the Great Russian State Circus, credits him with helping "bring about a rapprochement between East and West through the language of laughter".

"

then uses a bicycle pump to "inflate" a fellow clown who rises inch-by-inch from a collapsed pose on the floor.

Accompanied by a circus orchestra, Popov and his 49-year-old German wife Gabriela also juggle and do magic tricks -- with no vocabulary required as they communicate with their audience in the universal language of laughter.

"The work of a clown is interesting because it is art, and art is like an endless ocean," the octogenarian told AFP between shows, taking a break in his circus trailer filled with costumes, balloons and old-fashioned suitcases.

"What Charlie Chaplin was for the movies, Oleg Popov is for the circus," states a tribute to Popov on the Great Russian State Circus website, referring to one of the clown's own idols.

It likens his reprises to "poetry", saying he "bathes the circus ring in sunshine", hence the nickname.

Born Oleg Konstantinovich Popov into a poor family in a small town near Moscow, he joined the Russian State Circus school in Moscow at the age of 14, spending 10-hour days learning juggling, tightrope walking, trapeze work and acrobatics.

After a sickly childhood often spent hungry, Popov's gift for hilarity soon earned him payment in the form of food coupons for performances at Russian collective

Popov tours each year for six months, giving more than 200 performances mainly in Germany but also in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

"For the rest of the time I watch birds flying in the sky," he says.

Ringmaster Thierry Dourain said Popov never let his fame go to his head. "He does not assume any airs, not even when (Russian Prime Minister) Vladimir Putin phones him on his birthday."

And quitting is out of the question.

"He thinks he will die in the circus, that one day God will call him from his dressing room or the ring," said circus director Willem Smitt.

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Russia's Zvonareva beats Venus Williams in Hong Kong



HONG KONG (AFP) - World number two Vera Zvonareva crushed five-time Wimbledon champion Venus Williams in Hong Kong Thursday as some of the world's top women prepared for the year's first Grand Slam.

Zvonareva's 6-4, 6-2 victory -- and wins by her teammates Maria Kirilenko and Yevgeny Kafelnikov -- helped Russia into an unsailable 3-0 lead over the Americas with only the mixed doubles to play at the World Team Challenge season-opening exhibition tournament.

"It's an exciting moment for me. It's the first match of the year and I'm really happy the way I started," said the

26-year-old, who was in scintillating form ahead of the Australian Open starting on January 17.

"Venus is a great champion and it's always a pleasure to play against her."

Zvonareva, who has 10 WTA career singles wins, was vastly more consistent than the American in the semi-final clash.

Williams, 30, struggled in the chilly 3,600-seater Victoria Park stadium, getting off to a shaky start in both sets when she dropped her first service game.

The world number five is recovering from a series of knee injuries and never looked at ease, making 16 unforced errors and managing just five winners against Zvonareva's 10.

Zvonareva, a canny baseliner who is at home on all surfaces, showed more guile than her opponent, out-serving Williams by aiming the ball close to the six foot one inch (1.85 metre) American's body and crowding her out of the match.

Earlier Zvonareva's teammate Maria Kirilenko, 23, gave US teenager Melanie Oudin a lesson in tenacity and concentration, fighting her way from a set down to sneak a second set tie-breaker before taking the decider 6-0.

"In the third set I think she

was just a little bit disappointed because she was up 5-3 in the second set," Kirilenko said of 19-year-old Oudin after the two-and-a-half hour match.

"She is still young -- she is 19 years old so she's just starting to play on tour and she's playing not really bad, she's playing good."

Zvonareva, Kirilenko and Williams are in Hong Kong as part of their preparations for the Australian Open, which starts on January 17.

Portuguese rider Goncalves takes Dakar fifth stage



IQUIQUE (AFP) - Portuguese motorcyclist Paulo Goncalves, riding a BMW, won the fifth stage of the Dakar Rally on Thursday after a 423km special stage from Calama to Iquique with Chilean Aprilia rider Francisco Lopez taking second. Goncalves finished 2min 18sec ahead of Lopez, and 2min 19sec in front of Dutchman Frans Verhoeven on another BMW. Overall leader Marc Coma of Spain was fourth on a KTM, just ahead of main rival and defending champion Cyril Despres of France who was 12sec behind the Spaniard.

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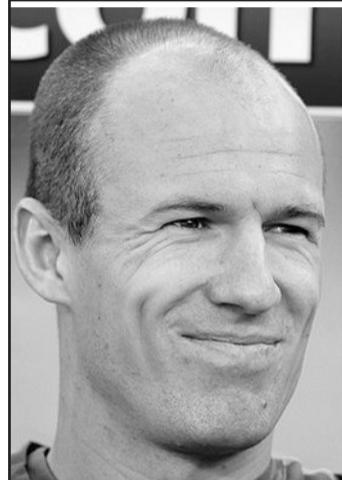
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Robben ready to return from injury



DOHA (AFP) - Dutch international Arjen Robben says he is fit and ready to return for Bayern Munich after a six-month injury layoff that has kept him out of action since the World Cup in South Africa.

The 26-year-old winger's

last competitive game was the World Cup final defeat to Spain on July 11.

But his torn hamstring has finally healed and he wants to play in the German club's friendly against Qatar Stars League side Al Wakrah in Doha on Saturday.

"I would rather play today than in three or four weeks. I want to come back stronger than before," Robben told

Homeless man gets job offer from Cavaliers



CLEVELAND (AFP) - A homeless man whose vocal skills became a US Internet sensation has been offered a two-year job with the Cleveland Cavaliers that includes having his living expenses paid by the NBA club.

Ted Williams, who had struggled with drugs and alcohol, became a celebrity when a video clip of his voice skills filmed while he was on the side of a highway was posted on the Internet by the Columbus Dispatch newspaper.

With his deep tone and polished pronunciation, Williams was so impressive

Qatari media.

Football giants Bayern are training in Doha, taking advantage of a winter break of the Bundesliga season, which restarts on January 15.

They are fifth in the league, 14 points behind leaders Borussia Dortmund.

Bayern coach Louis van Gaal said Robben could play "30 minutes or more" against Al Wakrah.

that in addition to his job offer from the Cavaliers, American football voiceover work could also be on the horizon after interest from NFL Films.

"We hope Ted accepts our offer," said Cavaliers announcer Olivia Sedra.

Williams, who pleaded guilty to theft charges after being arrested last May, had been living in a tent.

"We believe in second chances and second opportunities," Cavaliers marketing vice president Tracy Marek said.

"When you know something's right, you just have to launch. The important thing that we wanted to do is to let Ted know that we have something here for him."

Williams, 53, told the Dispatch, "I'm an ex-radio announcer who has fallen on hard times" and was shown holding a cardboard sign with a plea for help from motorists.

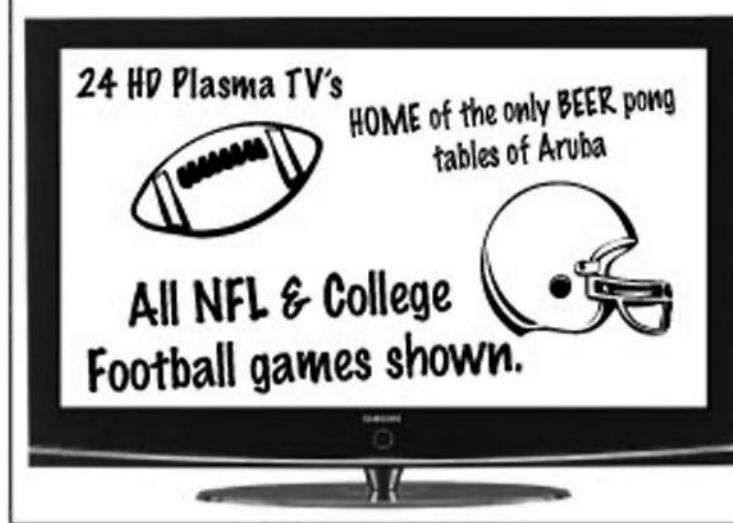


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Super Bowl star Elway returns as Broncos top executive



Hall of Fame quarterback John Elway and Denver Broncos owner Pat Bowlen, left.

DENVER, Colorado (AFP) – John Elway, the retired Hall of Fame quarterback who guided the Denver Broncos to victory in the 1998 and 1999 Super Bowls, was named football operations chief of the struggling club on Wednesday.

Elway spent 16 seasons throwing passes for the Broncos, helping Denver reach five Super Bowls in all before calling it quits after his second Super Bowl triumph, retiring as the winningest starting quarterback in NFL history.

Now he will have the final word on personnel decisions for a team that finished 4-12 and secured the second pick in the next National Football League Draft.

Rangers ink Beltre to rich six-year deal

ARLINGTON, Texas (AFP) – Dominican slugger Adrian Beltre signed a six-year deal worth 96 million dollars on Wednesday with the Texas Rangers, who hope their new third baseman can get them back to the World Series.

Beltre will be paid 14 million dollars in 2011 with one million dollar raises over the following four years before settling for 16 million in 2016, a season that the Rangers can void if Beltre fails to reach performance targets.

The Rangers won the American league crown last year, winning a Major

"My greatest asset is my competitiveness," Elway said. "I will give it everything I can to return this team back to the way it was."

Elway's first task will be to lead the club's search for a new coach, working with new team president Joe Ellis under owner Pat Bowlen.

"John Elway's leadership, competitiveness and passion for the Denver Broncos will position this team for long-term success," Bowlen said.

"John has won championships as a player and executive and his experience will be a valuable addition to this franchise."

Elway was owner and chief executive of an Arena Football League indoor gridiron club for eight years before joining the Broncos last year as a marketing consultant.

"He's a very knowledgeable individual or he wouldn't be coming back in," safety Brian Dawkins said.

Elway will command respect from Broncos supporters who had become accustomed to following a perennial contender.

League Baseball playoff series for the first time in their half-century history and then taking another before falling to San Francisco in the World Series.

"We all know that the Rangers have a really good team," Beltre said. "The team is willing to do whatever it takes to get to the next step. That was one of the factors to make my decision to come here easier."

Beltre joins a batting lineup that led the major leagues last season, powered by major league batting champion Josh Hamilton, power hitter Nelson Cruz and

Garrett named coach of Dallas Cowboys

ARLINGTON (AFP) - Jason Garrett was named coach of the Dallas Cowboys on Thursday, the National Football League club dropping the interim tag from a man who guided them over the second half of the 2010 season.

Garrett, the team's eighth coach but the first former Cowboys player to guide them, went 5-3 after taking over on an interim basis from Wade Phillips, who was fired after a 1-7 start for the Cowboys.

"He is truly one of our own," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "We know him well. He has prepared all his life for this day and he's well qualified."

The 6-10 season was filled with disappointments for Dallas, but Jones said the losing campaign provided a chance to see how Garrett handled the challenge. The three losses Dallas suffered under him were by only a total of seven points.

"It did give us the opportunity to evaluate Jason Garrett under pressure situations," Jones said. "He passed the test. He has my respect. That

says it all right there."

Garrett was a backup quarterback to Troy Aikman for Dallas in the 1990s, when the Cowboys won three Super Bowl titles in four years, and said he was determined to restore the team to former glory by playing "The Cowboy Way".

"We're going to work hard to try to get back to that level," Garrett said.

"I have tremendous respect for the history that goes with this organization. I will do everything that's possible to put the Dallas Cowboys back

on top where they belong."

The Cowboys, who debuted a new 1.2 billion-dollar stadium last season, have not reached the Super Bowl in 15 years. Since 1996, the club has won only one playoff game, that coming in 2009.

Garrett, 44, had served as assistant coach and was among the NFL's top-paid assistants when the season began. He spent 12 years with the Cowboys, whose staff also includes his brothers Judd and John. Garrett's father Jim spent more than 20 seasons working for the club.



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Jordan's Prince Ali wins FIFA vice-presidency

DOHA (AFP) - Jordan's Prince Ali bin Al Hussein stunned powerful South Korean Chung Mong-Joon to unseat him as a FIFA vice-president here on Thursday.

Chung, the controlling shareholder in industrial giant Hyundai Heavy Industries, a major FIFA sponsor, had been in the job since 1994 and was widely expected to retain the role.

But in a vote of the Asian Football Confederation's 45 eligible members at their Congress in Doha, the prince won 25-20.

It was a big upset with ru-



mours flying that Chung, 59, was to launch a campaign to unseat Sepp Blatter as FIFA

president later in the year, someone he has previously feuded with.

Chung supported an unsuccessful attempt to unseat Blatter 10 years ago amid allegations of financial impropriety from the collapse of a marketing company that worked for FIFA.

He reopened the wounds just months ago when he insisted change at the top was in the interests of football's world governing body.

Blatter was in the arena for the vote on Thursday.

Prince Ali, a Blatter ally, becomes the youngest member of the FIFA executive committee at the age of 35 after rallying Arab support behind him.

The son of the late King Hussein and late Queen Alia, has been president of his domestic football federation for a decade and holds the same role at the head of the increasingly-influential West Asian Football Federation.

Federer and Nadal both reach the semis

DOHA (AFP) - Rafael Nadal overcame Ernests Gulbis and his continuing bout of fever with a courageous and adequate albeit uninspired performance to reach the semi-finals of the Qatar Open here on Thursday.

Roger Federer was not at his best either, but reached his eighth successive semi-final since losing his Wimbledon title six months ago by outplaying Viktor Troicki 6-2, 6-2.

Federer now has a semi-final Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who is seeking his first title in 15 months after a long spell with knee problems, and who progressed with a 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (11/9) win over Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, the seventh-seeded Spaniard.

Dhoni eyes new challenges after South Africa draw

CAPE TOWN (AFP) - Indian captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni looked ahead to new challenges after his side validated their ranking as the number one Test team by earning a share of the series against second-ranked South Africa at Newlands on Thursday.

The third and final Test ended in a draw when play was called off eight overs early with India on 166 for three after being set to make 340 to win.

Opening batsman Gautam Gambhir guided India to safety with a cautious innings of 64.

"We're happy with our

performance," said Dhoni, pointing out that India were possibly one wicket away from being able to force a win when South Africa were reeling at 130 for six on the fourth day.

Dhoni said he felt a shared series was a fair result and that his team were less concerned with the world ranking than with the process of preparing and playing well.

"Series between the top teams are very good for cricket," he said. "This year we go to England and then to Australia, so we will have played all the other top three teams."

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